

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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SAJ-01 /062 W

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3375

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2368

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GE, GW

SUBJECT: WORLD SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN BERLIN

REF: BONN 18446

1. WE HESITATE TO GET OUR FEET WET ON THIS SUBJECT, BUT WE'LL TAKE THE PLUNGE. GDR EFFORT APPEARS CALCULATED TO ENFORCE BY MEANS OF ITS ATHLETIC MUSCLE ITS OWN INTERPRETATION OF WEST BERLIN AS A SEPARATE POLITICAL ENTITY. PERHAPS BY COINCIDENCE, SOVIETS RAISED POINTED QUESTIONS WITH CHAIRMAN POLAD NOVEMBER 3 ON INDIRECTLY RELATED VISA ISSUE WHICH WE ARE REPORTING BY SEPTTEL.

2. ACTUALLY, HOWEVER, NEITHER GDR NOR OTHER MEMBERS OF WARSAW PACT SHOULD HAVE PRACTICAL PROBLEM WITH VISAS FOR SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP IN WEST BERLIN SINCE UNDER GERMAN AND ALLIED LEGISLATION RESPECTIVELY THEIR SWIMMERS DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS TO COME TO BERLIN
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FOR THIS PURPOSE. UNDER GERMAN LAW IN FORCE IN BERLIN,

GDR CITIZENS ARE CONSIDERED GERMAN NATIONALS AND DO NOT REQUIRE VISAS TO COME EITHER TO FRG OR TO BERLIN. ALLIED KOMMANDATURS BK/O(67)7 PROVIDES THAT NATIONALS OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES MAY STAY IN BERLIN FOR PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED 31 DAYS WITHOUT OBTAINING A RESIDENCE PERMIT PROVIDED THE STAY IS " FOR SCIENTIFIC, TECHNICAL, CULTURAL, SPORTS OR TOURIST PURPOSES", AND STAY IS NOTIFIED TO POLICE PRESIDENT " IN ADVANCE OR IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN." PURPOSE OF ALLIED ORDER, AS EXPLAINED IN CONCOMITANT CLASSIFIED BK/L (67)15, IS " TO FACILITATE VISITS FOR PURPOSES WHICH ARE BENEFICIAL TO WEST BERLIN OF PERSONS WHOSE GOVERNMENTS WILL NOT ALLOW THEM TO SATISFY THE FORMAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE LAW ORDINARILY APPLICABLE IN THE WESTERN SECTORS OF BERLIN."

3. IN EVENT THAT GDR SEEKS TO MAKE FURTHER DIFFICULTIES WITH FRG COMPROMISE PROPOSAL THAT OLYMPIC PROCEDURES BE USED FOR BERLIN MEET, FRG MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER WHETHER IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO CALL POINTS IN PARA 2 ABOVE TO ATTENTION OF INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING AUTHORITY, SINCE THEY DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE IS NO PRACTICAL GDR, SOVIET OR EASTERN EUROPEAN PROBLEM, WE WOULD HOPE THAT INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING FEDERATION (FINA) WOULD NOT BE SYMPATHETIC TO EFFORTS TO INTRODUCE EXTRANEIOUS POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS BY DEMANDING SPECIAL SENAT ROLE OR FURTHER RENEGOTIATION OF FINA AGREEMENT WITH GERMAN SWIMMING ASSOCIATION. GEORGE

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